

KnoxNews

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Knox needs breath of fresh air

Study ranks area 9th among U.S. cities

By MORGAN SIMMONS, simmonsm@knews.com
May 1, 2003

For the fourth consecutive year a nationwide study has recognized Knoxville for its bad air.

In its annual "State of the Air" report released Wednesday the American Lung Association ranks Knoxville ninth among the 25 most ozone air polluted cities in the United States.

Last year Knoxville ranked eighth in the report, and in 2001 the city ranked ninth. In 2000, the first year the report was released, Knoxville ranked 12th.

Janice Nolen, director of national policy for the American Lung Association, said the slight improvements reflected in this year's report versus last year's are most likely because of favorable weather conditions than to new measures to reduce pollution.

"Any improvements in this report is Mother Nature taking it easy on us," Nolen said. "While we're grateful for it, we can't depend on it."

The American Lung Association times the release of its annual ozone report to coincide with the start of the summer ozone season. Ground-level ozone is a colorless, odorless gas that irritates lung tissue and is especially harmful to people with respiratory disease, senior citizens, and children.

This year's State of the Air report ranks Los Angeles as the worst ozone polluted metropolitan area for the fourth year in the row. Atlanta ranked as having the seventh-worst ozone levels in the country, just one place ahead of Knoxville.

Knox County and Blount County were bumped from this year's top 25 most- ozone-polluted county list. However, both counties still received a grade of "F" based on the number of days ozone levels exceeded levels considered safe for human health.

Nolen said that the Southeast region consistently records some of the highest ozone readings in the nation.

"People think of ozone air pollution only being in California, but as far as measuring lower levels over a long period of time, the South has a persistent problem," Nolen said.

The 2003 State of the Air report is based on ozone data collected at local monitoring stations and sent to the EPA for review. Knox County has two ozone-monitoring stations, one at Spring Hill, and one at East Knox County Elementary School.

Ratings were based on the number of days a county's air reached unhealthy levels as described by EPA's Air Quality Index, which breaks air pollution levels into numerical and color-coded ratings with corresponding health advisory statements.

Last summer the Great Smoky Mountains National Park recorded 43 days when ozone levels exceeded the safety threshold. That made 2002 the park's second worst ozone season, topped only by 1999, when the park recorded 52 ozone days.

So far this year the Great Smoky Mountains National Park has had two ozone exceedance days, one on April 12, and one on April 15.

The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that 20 percent of the U.S. population is especially susceptible to ozone. The American Lung Association of Tennessee estimates that in Knox County alone some 4,706 children, and 20,117 adults, suffer from asthma.

The 2003 State of the Air report says ozone levels across the United States dropped significantly throughout the 1980s, thanks to the Clean Air Act, which was instituted in 1970 and updated in 1977 and 1990.

The reports criticizes the Bush administration's pollution plan for delaying and diluting provisions of the Clean Air Act that would force coal burning power plants to reduce their sulfur, nitrogen, and mercury emissions.

The release of the annual report comes less than a week after Knox County hosted a regional clean air summit attended by U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., state air quality experts, and representatives from seven East Tennessee counties.

Lynne Liddington, director of air quality management for Knox County, Knoxville and other area municipalities knows they have to take the initiative if they're going to comply with the new ozone standards passed by EPA.

"It really is a regional problem," Liddington said. "Here in Knox County, we know we can't clean up our air without help from the surrounding counties."

Liddington said Knoxville's proximity to power plants, its mountain topography and its high traffic flow all contribute to an air pollution problem that's out of proportion to the city's size.

Morgan Simmons may be reached at 865-342-6321.

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Most major Tennessee cities improve air quality in new report

By The Associated Press
May 1, 2003

Most major metropolitan areas in Tennessee improved air quality from 1999 to 2001, but Memphis moved up one place among the most air-polluted areas in the country, the American Lung Association said in a report to be released Thursday.

Knoxville still has the worst air quality among major Tennessee cities, but fell one place to ninth in the annual State of the Air report.

Nashville improved from 18th last year to No. 21, while Chattanooga fell out of the top 25 and is now rated 36th.

For the fourth year in a row, the American Lung Association's most-polluted list was topped by Los Angeles.

The ALA times the release of its annual ozone report to coincide with the start of the summer ozone season. The report used information obtained from 1999 to 2001.

Ozone, a derivative of smog, is created when the volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides released by cars, power plants and other sources react in the presence of sunlight. The report said ozone poses a serious health threat to children and those 65 and older, as well as to thousands of asthma, bronchitis and emphysema sufferers.

John Kirkwood, president and chief executive officer for the American Lung Association, said the 2003 report shows improvement in smog density. Most of that improvement can be attributed to a cooler summer in 2001, he said.

"We can't depend on Mother Nature to protect Americans from disease and death caused by breathing human-made smog," he said in a statement.

All of the 16 Tennessee counties monitored by the association received a grade of F for high-ozone days. The highest ozone levels in the state were in the Knoxville metropolitan area, according to the report.

Janice Nolan, director of national policy for the ALA, said the Southeast region consistently records some of the highest ozone readings in the nation.

"People think of ozone air pollution only being in California, but as far as measuring lower levels over a longer period of time, the South has a persistent problem," she said.

Robert Colby, executive director of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Pollution Control Board, said he is pleased Chattanooga is off the list.

"We have a process in place to make even more significant improvements," he said.

The county is taking steps to reduce emissions further to comply with federal clean air standards, he said. In December, the county signed an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce ozone levels to federal standards by 2007.

Memphis moved into a tie with Birmingham, Ala., for 18th on the list.

Despite the city's ranking, Health Department officials have expressed optimism that pollution-control measures at the Tennessee Valley Authority's Allen Fossil Plant will help improve local air quality.

Bob Rogers, air program coordinator for the Health Department, said continuing growth in vehicle travel makes air pollution a stubborn problem in Memphis.

"We've greatly reduced emissions from manufacturers and, now, power plants. But that's been pretty much offset by increases in traffic," Rogers said.

Barbara Martocci, spokeswoman for the Tennessee Valley Authority, said TVA is working to reduce the level of ozone in the Smoky Mountains created by its coal-fired power plants.

Martocci said TVA's emissions account for only part of the region's air-quality problems. Utilities are responsible for one-third of all emissions, she said. Cars and other sources make up the remaining two-thirds, she said.

Of the power plants' emissions, TVA plants make up 20 percent, Martocci said. Martocci said TVA has reduced its ozone emissions by 50 percent since 1995 and will reduce emissions by another 75 percent by 2005.

The report says ozone levels across the United States dropped significantly throughout the 1980s, thanks to the Clean Air Act, which was instituted in 1970 and updated in 1977 and 1990.

The reports criticizes the Bush administration's pollution plan for delaying and diluting provisions of the Clean Air Act that would force coal burning power plants to reduce sulfur, nitrogen, and mercury emissions.

On the Net:

America Lung Association: <http://www.lungusa.org/>

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- Monday, Apr 28
- Sunday, Apr 27
- Saturday, Apr 26
- Friday, Apr 25
- Thursday, Apr 24

Discover Knoxville

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A community guide
to the Knoxville area

Check out this 2003
edition of the News
Sentinel's guide to the
greater Knoxville
community, a
compilation of
information about living
in East Tennessee.

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Tips to protect your health and the environment

May 1, 2003

Health tips

- Don't exercise midday or in the afternoon when ozone levels high.
- Avoid strenuous outdoor activity when ozone smog other pollutions are high.
- Avoid congested streets and rush hour traffic since motor vehicles are primary source of air pollution.
- Make sure teachers, coaches and recreation officials offer indoor activities for children with asthma.
- Be aware of air quality.
- Watch the calendar for "smog season," May to October.

Reduction tips

- Combine car trips; increase carpooling.
- Fill up gas tank after dusk.
- Keep cars maintained.
- Use mass transit whenever possible.
- Use human-powered or electric rather than gas-powered lawn equipment.
- Conserve electricity to reduce power plant emissions.
- Consider purchasing an electric or hybrid gasoline/electric vehicle.

Source: American Lung Association



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community, a
compilation of
information about living
in East Tennessee.

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List of worst ozone polluters

May 1, 2003

Worst ozone pollution

1. Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County CMS
2. Fresno, CA MSA
3. Bakersfield, CA MSA
4. Visalia-Tulare-Porterville, CA MSA
5. Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX CMSA
6. Sacramento-Yolo, CA CMSA
7. Merced, CA MSA
8. Atlanta MSA
9. Knoxville MSA
10. Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC MSA
18. Memphis, TN-AR-MS MSA
21. Nashville, MSA

Source: American Lung Association

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The Knoxville News-Sentinel
KNOXNEWS.com

REGIONAL CLEAN AIR ACTION SUMMIT

**University of Tennessee Conference Center
600 Henley Street, 4th Floor, Knoxville, TN
April 25, 2003**

Program

7:30 Registration and Continental Breakfast – Main Atrium

8:00 Welcome - Knox County Executive Mike Ragsdale - Auditorium (focus today is on solutions and how you can participate)

**8:15 Keynote Speaker – US Senator Lamar Alexander – Auditorium
Introduction by Mike Ragsdale, Knox County Executive**

**8:45 Air Quality 101 – Moderator, Betsy Child, Commissioner of the
Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation – Auditorium.
Introduction by Knoxville Mayor Victor Ashe**

- **Barry Stephens, P.E., Director, Division of Air Pollution Control, TN Dept. of Environment and Conservation, will speak on ground level ozone and its health effects, EPA nonattainment designations, and the purpose of the Early Action Compacts.**
- **Wayne Davis, Ph.D, UTK, Chairman of the Knox County Air Pollution Control Board will speak on ozone precursor emissions in the regional area.**
- **John Shipp, General Manager, Environmental Policy and Planning, TVA – will address the work that TVA is doing to address the EPA NOx SIP call reductions of nitrogen oxides from TVA coal fired power plants.**
- **Jim Renfro, Air Resource Specialist, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, will address the environmental impacts facing the park from ozone pollution, acid deposition, and haze.**

10:15 Alan Jones, Senior Policy Analyst, TN Dept. of Environment and Conservation, will present ideas on what government, industry, employers, and the general public can do to help improve the quality of the air that we breathe.

10:30 Break - Main Atrium

REGIONAL CLEAN AIR ACTION SUMMIT ATTENDEES

April 25, 2003

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Akins	Darrell	AkinsCrisp Public Strategies
Alexander	Senator Lamar	United States Senate
Arms	Mike	Office of Knox County Executive Mike Ragsdale
Bailey	Joe	Business Development Services
Bailey	Jack	Business Development Services
Ball	David	City of Gatlinburg
Barger	Don	National Parks Conservation Association
Barkenbus	Jack	University of Tennessee
Baxter	Bill	Tennessee Valley Authority Director
Begalla	Jim	Leadership Knoxville
Bennett	Dane	
Berry	Jan	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Bishop	Doug	City of Sevierville
Bobrowski	Terry	East Tennessee Development District
Borel	Karen	USEPA Region 4
Bowers	Jan	Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Bowers	Bob	Wilbur Smith Associates
Bragg	Denton	
Braswell	Mark	Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Brellenthin	Jack	Tennessee Valley Authority
Brown	Marilyn	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Buzbee	Bill	IdleAire Technologies Corporation
Calcagno	Jimmy	University of Tennessee
Cantrell	Teresa	Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Chambers	Phil	Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Chedester	Jane	Office of Senator Lamar Alexander
Child	Commissioner Betsy	TN Department of Environment & Conservation
Christensen	Sig	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Coffey	Pearl	Union County Family Resource Center
Cogdill	Chris	City of Gatlinburg
Cohen	Mike	Office of Knox County Executive Mike Ragsdale
Colby	Bob	Chattanooga/Hamilton County Air Pollution Control Bureau
Cole	Ed	TN Department of Transportation
Collins	Jill	University of Tennessee Graduate Student
Comer	Ralph	TN Department of Transportation
Conger	Mike	Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization
Cooksey	Gerry	IdleAire Technologies Corporation
Cope	Lanny	Cope Associates, Inc.
Corrigan	Marc	State of Tennessee Air Pollution Control
Crabtree	Mike	IdleAire Technologies Corporation
Crew	John	IdleAire Technologies Corporation
Crisp	John	AkinsCrisp Public Strategies
Cropp	Wayne	Aquaterra, LLC
Curd	Shelaine	NBII/SAIN
Curtain	Erin	
Davidson	Diane	Franklin Transit Authority
Davis	Wayne	University of Tennessee
Dicicco	Steve	Emera Chem

Delaney	Jenny
DeLozier	Kathy
Detring	Reed
Dinse	David
Doraiswamy	Prakash
Doty	John
Dulaney	Jeannie
Eason	Beth
Edwards	Mike
Eimers	Carol
Elmendorf	Jill
Emert	Jason
English	Mary
Erwin	Paul
Estes	Karen
Everett	Jerry
Everhart	David
Fairstein	John
Fischer	Alex
Forster	Carolyn
Fortner	Bryon
France	Jason
Frank	Fred
Freeman	Jenny
French	GINNA
Fritts	Steve
Fugate	Lynne
Gale	Pete
Gentry	John
Gillespie	Sandy
Goins	Misty
Gossett	Steve
Greenwood	Carolyn
Griffitts	Bob
Haden	Joel
Hall	Frances
Hamby	Chris
Hamilton	Kathy
Hamil	Beth
Hardin	Helen
Harenza	John
Harrison	Robert
Hartman	Murray
Haslam	Bill
Haynes	Patrick
Henneke	Ben
Hennon	Helen
Henry	Erich
Hickman	Jerry
Hoffman	Anne Marie
Holiway	Gary
Hook	Les

Blount County Chamber of Commerce
National Park Service
Tennessee Valley Authority
University of Tennessee
IdleAire Technologies Corporation
Leadership Knoxville
League of Women Voters
Knox Area Chamber Partnership
Tennessee Valley Authority
ALSTOM Environmental Control Systems
UT Energy & Environment Resources Center
East Tennessee Regional Health Office
Knoxville/Knox County CAC
Center for Transportation Research
IdleAire Technologies Corporation
CABOL, Inc.
UT-Battelle
Leadership Blount County/9C1V
City of Sevierville
Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce
Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization
East Tennessee Environmental Business Association
Tennessee Valley Authority
BWSC
Nine Counties One Vision
McNutt Oil Company, Inc.
McMinn County Executive
Nine Counties One Vision
Nine Counties One Vision
Eastman Chemical Company
Environmental Systems Corporation
Office of Congressman Jimmy Duncan
Tennessee Valley Authority
Hall Communications
Leadership Knoxville
Leadership Knoxville
Office of Congressman Zach Wamp
Tennessee Valley Authority
RM Moore Real Estate Company
Pilot Corporation
Clean Air Action Corporation
Environmental Systems Corporation
Blount County Soil Conservation District
City of Sevierville
USEPA Region 4
Jefferson County Executive
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Hosker	Ray
Huddleston	Dale
Hultquist	Joe
Humphreys	Penny
Ilgner	Beray
Jagger	John
Jaynes	Patrick
Jensen	Carolyn
Jenson	Tom
Johnson	Mark
Johnston	Jimmy
Jones	Alan D.
Jones	Ben
Jones	Bill
Jones	Mark
Kahn	Chris
Kardatzke	Anita
Kircher	Steve
Knight	Kathy
Krumm	Brian
Lafon	Alan
Lamb	John
Lay	Larry
Ledford	Joe
Leiserson	Alan
LeQuire	Elise
Liddington	Lynne
Loeffler	Kimberly
Lowe	Vicki
Marcus	Nancy
Marine	Scott
Marmon	Kenneth
Mashburn	Lillian
McMahan	Iliff
McNutt	Clara
Mennell	Miles
Merritt	Paul
Midgett	Angie
Miller	Don
Miller	George
Moore	Chris
Murrell	Marta
Myers	David
Naegeli	Wolf
Neel	Allen
Newsom	Dr. Ted
Nicholas	Niki
Nolt	Karen
Norman	Carol
Norris	Rick
Overly	Jonathon
Parker	Shannon

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
 Alcoa, Inc.
 Knoxville City Council

 City of Pigeon Forge
 Office of US Senator Lamar Alexander
 Office of US Senator Bill Frist
 National Safe Skies Alliance
 City of Alcoa
 Tennessee Valley Authority
 Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation

 Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee - Office on Aging
 Knox County Health Department
 Leadership Knoxville
 Blount County Community Health Initiative
 Envirotec Systems Corporation
 Loudon County Economic Development Agency

 Cope Associates, Inc.
 Blount County Planning Department
 Union County Executive
 BWSC
 Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
 Freelance Journalist
 Knox County Air Quality Management

 State of Tennessee Air Pollution Control
 Loudon County Commission
 Fun Time Trolley/City of Pigeon Forge
 Blount County Community Health Initiative
 University of Tennessee
 Cocke County Executive
 McNutt Oil Company, Inc.
 Association of Tennessee Valley Governments
 Grainger County Executive
 TN Department of Transportation
 Loudon County Commission
 Loudon County Executive
 Alcoa, Inc.
 Leadership Knoxville
 U.S. Department of Energy
 Foundation for Global Sustainability
 East Tennessee Economic Development Agency
 University of Tennessee
 Tennessee Valley Authority
 Knox County Park & Recreation
 University of Tennessee
 Cope Associates, Inc.
 East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition
 Knox County Air Quality Management

Parkhurst	Bill	Tennessee Valley Authority
Parnell	Sam	City of Knoxville
Parton	Buddy	City of Gatlinburg
Payne	Terry	UT-Battelle
Pendergrass	Will	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
Penland	Mark	Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Peretz	Jean	University of Tennessee Energy Environment & Resources Center
Phillips	Beth	TN Dept. of Economics & Community Development
Phillips	Patrick	Loudon County Economic Development Agency
Pionke	Cynthia	Knox County Engineering and Public Works
Poe	Alexia	Office of US Senator Lamar Alexander
Ponce	Linda	Office of Congressman Zach Wamp
Powell	Alan	USEPA Region 4
Pratt	James	Pratt & Associates/National Transportation Research Center, Inc.
Purkey	David	Morristown County Executive
Ragsdale	Mike	Knox County Executive
Reafsnyder	Jim	DOE Office of Partnerships and Program Development
Reed	Gregory	University of Tennessee
Regas	Matt	IdleAire Technologies Corporation
Renfro	Jim	Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Reyes	Boris	
Rhines	Darrin	Knoxville Utilities Board
Rice	Dean	Office of Congressman Jimmy Duncan
Richard	Darryl	Knox County Schools
Rogero	Madeline	Madeline Rogero for Mayor
Rose	Jeff	City of Maryville/Blount Chamber Partnership
Ross	Nelson	Izaak Walton League
Russell	Rick	BWSC
Sale	Michael	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Sanchez	Richard	Knoxville Utilities Board
Schlieter	Kurt	Office of Congressman Zach Wamp
Segars	Kelley	Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization
Segnar	Sharon	Office of US Senator Lamar Alexander
Sewell	John	TN Air Pollution Control Board
Shaw	Bob	CABOL, Inc.
Shelton	Robert	Joint Institute for Energy & Environment
Shiflett	Barbara	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
Shipp	John	Tennessee Valley Authority
Sinclair	Brooke	Knoxville Utilities Board
Smith	Stephen	Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
Snider	Dennis	Sevier County Government
Spangler	Mark D.	Trout Unlimited
Sparkman	Stephanie	Alcoa, Inc.
Stephens	Jim	National Parks Conservation Association
Stephens	Mike	Carlex Glass Company
Stephens	Barry	State of Tennessee Air Pollution Control
Stewart	Art	
Stroik	Bob	Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Styke	Quincy	State of Tennessee Air Pollution Control
Thompson	Tim	TN Dept. of Economics & Community Development
Tidwell	Linda	TN Dept. of Environment and Conservation
True	Valerie	Southern Alliance for Clean Energy

Turner	Robert	Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere
Tyree	Ted	Knoxville Utilities Board
Vandergriff	David	University of Tennessee Extension Service
Vaughan	Kathie	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Vaughn	Kelly	Knox County Air Quality Management
Wade	Linda	Maryville Central Community Neighborhood Association
Wagley	Allison	Knox County Office of Neighborhoods
Wamp	Congressman Zach	U.S. House of Representatives
Watson	Allan	Monroe County Executive
Welch	Jeff	Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization
Werner	John	Knox County Finance
Wharton	John	Lockwood Greene Engineers, Inc.
White Miller	Tammy	TN Dept. of Economics & Community Development
Williams	Wray	IdleAire Technologies Corporation
Wilson	Bob	IdleAire Technologies Corporation
Wilson	A.C.	IdleAire Technologies Corporation
Wilson	Justin	Office of former TN Governor Don Sundquist
Wilson	Jim	
Winther	Evelyn	University of Tennessee Former Student
Wuethrich	Bruce	Knox County Engineering and Public Works
Yager	Ken	Roane County Executive
Yeager	Bruce	Tennessee Valley Authority
York	Carla	Ebus, Inc.
Young	Donna	City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation

ALTERNATIVE FUELS / FLEET OPPORTUNITIES A

Volume of alternative fuels and evaporation

Chicago test buses – HFC

Suntime Transit in California is the place to contact

Federal Transportation Association

School buses are a great place to start with biodiesel or other alt fuel. Need single operation.

LPG in use 50 years ago. Today there is no support system in place.

Production cost for gas and propane engines are equal.

Bring attention to alternative fuel vehicles already in use.

Contact Tennessee Alternative Fuels Vehicle Coalition to find out how to help.

Have a clear message to the government.

Cold weather issues with biodiesel can be addressed.

A home refueling station is now available for natural gas vehicles. Most likely there will be issues about taxing this fuel. (separate home meter or tax exemption?)

Propane is more expensive than gasoline.

Partnerships are key.

Tax incentives may be necessary.

Have government contracts require alternative fuel vehicles as part of the award.

ALTERNATIVE FUELS / FLEET OPPORTUNITIES B

Are the costs higher or lower over the life of the vehicle?

Refueling hybrid (??? Should be alternative fuel, maybe ???) vehicles can be a problem.

CNG/gas is vehicle of choice by EPA

Fleet alternate fuel stations should be available to employees.

Get demonstration station for low sulfur gas and diesel.

Blends of gas/ethanol and diesel/B20 in Tennessee. Develop fleet first.

Old "gas-a-hol" did not work well in engines.

Flex fuel vehicles not developed.

CNG Stations: GSMNP, Sevier County, Nashville

CNG Stations: Private in TN & GA. Public in NC.

All fuels are not created equal. All have advantages and disadvantages.

What can we do now?

Demand low sulfur gas and diesel available in NC.

Supply issue in east Tennessee. This is an issue for existing vehicles.

Get kids interested in the topic. i.e. on "King of the Hill" have Hank change his truck to propane.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY A

Hybrid lighting systems (natural / florescent) cannot store light.

TVA program pays a \$0.15 / kW rebate for solar and wind energy produced by consumers.

Work with computer manufacturers to produce "instant on" computers. (Most people don't shut them completely off because the computers take too long to come back on.)

Some progress has been made with "sleep modes" for appliance and computers.

Efficiency does not relate directly to NOx reductions. TVA power generation is based on projected loads. If all of the energy produced is not needed in this market, it will be sold to another market. However, NOx reductions can be estimated by looking at "marginal" generation with respect to efficiencies.

Set up prototypes to test residential and business hybrid lighting and geothermal heating.

Encourage developers to orient buildings to take advantage of passive solar heating.

Design tools are available to look at orientation and shading.

TVA does some of this in their "Living Clean and Green" program.

2 years to identify issues for the EAC.

What programs could be implemented?

State Legislature – new building codes

EPA initiatives – make better products available

Electric motor tune up program

Lighting retrofits and occupation sensors / timers

National verification standards have been adopted and can be used to evaluate results.

Downtown redevelopment suffers because most older buildings are not energy efficient. Austin, TX has a program to help businesses combat this. A pilot program has started in Memphis, TN.

US Green Building Program uses "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design".

Use third party financing – company is paid from energy savings. Try to work with companies and aggregate demand.

DOE – Rebuild America Program

ENERGY EFFICIENCY B

Steve Fritz – BWSC

Apply principles of sustainable design to broader areas.

Select mature and recyclable materials (landscaping, architecture)

Lead charge to establish US Supreme Building Council

Dr. Emm

Are we working w/ state governments in state buildings? More bang for the buck? Are we working with regional office buildings to promote change?

Ginna

Working with municipal bldg in Greeneville and Maryville

Stephen Smith – A&CE

Rachel Johnson Building – savings of \$800,000 / year (? \$80,000 / yr ?)

Need to do professional contracting for implementing off contract

3 pieces of legislation need advocacy for passage:

1. Change building codes: upgrade and update
2. Appliance bill – they want to tweak w/ energy office
3. Southern building codes – adoption (Individual / counties / municipalities / Enforcement (?) site

Elevate conservation & efficiency in efforts.

Sustainability issues elevated. Not just air and water.

Miles (?)

Fuel cell technology is exciting in the field. More focus on this.

Green power, landfill gas, fuel cells

End use – customer side

Marilyn

Phosphoric acid fuel cell – running efficiently in OR

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COMMUTER CHOICE A

KAT – city
CAC – county

Tax advantages for employers.

Make commuting expenses (i.e. bus fair) tax exempt for employees.

Are there advantages for non-profit and government agencies to participate in the Commuter Choice tax program? There are still advantages to employees (pre-tax dollars) even though employer doesn't gain the tax benefit.

What amount of emissions reductions can be obtained? Need to set a goal.

Tailor options to community. (Not every one can telecommute.)

Incentives for voluntary measures. Offset impact fees.

MSE < truck travel = more efficient than < passenger , but mix needed. (???? *This may have been talking about the fact that diesel trucks are the most polluting.???*)

Even though Clean Air regulations are the current motivator, keep in mind the other benefits of clean air.

Park 'n Ride – Businesses are now towing if you park in non-designated lots.
Contact business owners to set aside a # of spaces for park 'n ride.
Explain benefits to the owners.
Use right-of-ways for park 'n rides.
Maximize parking area.
Get creative with parking codes (max. parking not min.).

MPC in the recent General Plan does talk about needing to set maximum parking requirements rather than the minimum which is standard now.

Federal Commuter Choice tax program lets employers offer employees up to \$100 (pre-tax) a year for transit/vanpooling.

Enhance employer benefits

Enhance educational program. Driving less is still not part of our culture.

COMMUTER CHOICE B

Do you have case studies? Yes. Put case studies on Website.

Performance standards based on set levels.

Recognize outstanding employers.

Employer subsidies.

Level the playing field. Tax treatments for parking and using mass transit.
(sig: milestone)

Commuter choice tax program.

Value of Wage Works?

Employer bears administration cost but doesn't employer have to deal with administration (pays for it).

Develop tools for affecting development. (long term action)

Land use is extremely important in terms of travel behavior. Transit oriented design, mixed use, pedestrian friendly, etc.

DVMT = daily vehicle miles traveled is the key measure and must be reduced.

Zoning and development patterns created the current problems.

Model the next 25 years. Project the results and what the trends mean. Ask "Is this the future we want?"

County Executives must play a key role in land development and growth patterns.

EAC by 2007 concentrates on quick solutions.

If politicians and the public are willing we can act quickly.

Correct jobs / housing location balance.

Planning resources:

Smart Growth

ULI

American Planning Association

Livable Communities

MPC (Knoxville / Knox County)

More roundtables. They allow you to listen and integrate the information into your situation in order to act faster.

Schools can also develop trip reduction programs (School Pools)

Free parking makes trip reduction programs difficult—parking management is integral part.

Single Occupancy Vehicles (SOV) = 80 – 85%. Do we have a goal or a method to reduce this number?

Number of Smart Trips: measure and quantify using an employee surveys.

Benefits of commuter options are well documented.

No dedicated source of funding. Purely voluntary (for instance, Atlanta has about 60 TDM staff, whereas Knoxville has 1)

June deadline– suggestion submittal

Atlanta set standard to reduce SOV rate of government / state employees by 20% during ozone season.

Other agencies and companies got on board with 20% reductions.

By 3/31/04 regs are due. Quantify, model, and demonstrate NOW.

Will TDOT do their part?

Downtown Knoxville issue: Employers are moving out due to parking. Incentives to park DW = problem.

Reduce need for parking.

Incentives for cities: Business tax credits.

Ability to recruit employees from farther away if a developed transit system is in place.

Incentives for employers and developers: credits, bus shelters, bike trails.

Real estate is needed for a parking lot. Employers can save money by offering incentives for employees to use mass transit instead of buying land to build a parking lot.

More bike facilities and transit.

TDOT – Policy regarding all new facilities will have bike facilities

Low effectiveness because low current funding. 2yr budget is only \$75,000. Missoula, MT has around \$180,000 a year for their TDM program.

Need more funding for Smart Trips. CMAQ funds (T21 and T3)

OZONE ACTION DAYS A

8 hour ozone standard.

Groundwork for improving?

Early Action Compact accepted by County Executives.

Public involvement is important.

NOx reductions are hard to quantify.

Atlanta – government made commitment: 20% of employees will not drive to work alone. Ask businesses to do this also.

Funding for partnership?

Government asked for 3 projects. Will at least help with public relations Committee of Development District. Report to Board (Co Executives.)

EPA and National Weather Service signed agreement. (Ozone) forecasts will go through EPA (E. Miss. Focus)

Vehicle Inspection – Why don't we have them? Grainger County and other county executives would like to have it. Nashville has it. The quality is improving. Inspections would increase income (?). Not accepted by all members of the public. Education is needed.

Problems with statewide implementation: Not always cost effective. Are stations financially viable? In urban areas? Old measures are not as effective. New ODT tests connect directly to new cars computers (Convenience factor for citizens).

How can we start here?

Local health departments could facilitate.

Development Districts

Environmental Health Action Teams (Health Councils)

Air Quality

Water Quality

Land Use

EAC signed by County Commissioners – first step.

Axis to go out to get commitments (Outreach)

Form group to move forward.

Important to have industry buy-in.

Government Agencies

Move quickly to strong structure

In place by April 2005

Team of representatives to get with Nation Weather Service and EPA.

Development District (9 Counties 1 Vision, Health Department, BC)

Convene meeting. 9 Counties 1 Vision can set that up.

Local buy-in. Make it personal.

Smaller Counties form East Tennessee Development District (16 counties) Terry ED

County Executives willing to support and ease the way.

Exposure reduction – part of message. 2 pronged education.

Media involvement is critical.

Any thought as to what happens in 2005? Go beyond voluntary? Must quantify reduction to get credit.

PM 2.5

OZONE ACTION DAYS B

Could TVA do forecasts statewide and automatically send it to the media?

The key is to get the information to the public.

Forecasts are different for Knox County vs Sullivan County

Measurement of results?

Atlanta did quantification: traffic counts, surveys.

Future strategy? Continue for the foreseeable future.

Public education: info packages, programs in schools, summer camps, library reading programs.

Track hospital admission rates for children with asthma.

Federal programs. Can they help? Will tier 2 vehicles have an impact? SCR's will have an impact.

Standards for diesel engines are being reviewed. Starts in 2004. Low sulfur diesel fuel in 2007.

Radio, newspapers, TV all advertise ozone days.

What can we do here? Who can lead us?

- Accent on action.

- ETDD should step forward.

- Outreach to schools

- Grant money from Blount County Health

- Put e-mail list together

- Identify representatives from counties, schools, businesses

- Media relations campaign

- Meet with Tri-cities counterparts. Use them as a model.

- Coordinate people and task forces who are already working on these

- 9 Counties 1 Vision to convene interested parties

- Local buy-in from counties, environmental groups, and industry are crucial.

- Ad-hoc group – take to ETDD, Chamber of Commerce for adoption.

- TVA – major partner

- Hospitals / medical field: MDA, Children's Hospital

- Reduce congestion due to road construction on ozone days (DOT move traffic)

- Construction at night – pressure to keep traffic moving through / around town